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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/628,445 | 07/29/2003 | Ching-Jou Chen | CHEN3564/EM | 4844 |
| 23364 | 7590 | 03/16/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314 | | | CHANG, YEAN HSI | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2835 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/628,445 | CHEN ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Yean-Hsi Chang | Art Unit 2835 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2003.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-4, 6 and 7 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 5 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 29 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

| | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Clark et al. (US 6,493,220 B1).

Clark teaches a detachable personal computer (10, fig. 1) comprising: a protective panel (12), said protective panel comprising a base (86), a first extension and a second extension respectively extended (103) from said base, keyboard mounting opening (left front of 12 in fig. 4) defined between said first extension and said second extension, at least one first flexible retainer (60) and at least one second flexible retainer (54), and a receiving recess (90) located on said base, a support arm (100) coupled to said receiving recess (fig. 6A) and movable in and out of said receiving recess, said support arm having a bottom side (lower side in fig. 6B) pivoted to one side of said receiving recess by pivot means (112) and a top side, a keyboard (for example, on 70, not shown) movably coupled to the keyboard mounting opening of said protective panel;

and a tablet PC (20) detachably coupled to said protective panel, said tablet PC having a front side (96), a back side (not shown), a plurality of peripheral sides (not labeled), and an engagement structure formed in said back side and adapted to receive the top side of said support arm (see fig. 6A) (claim 1); wherein the quantity of said at least one first flexible retainer is one, which is located on the base of said protective panel (see fig. 3D) (claim 2); wherein the quantity of said at least one second flexible retainer is two, and said two second flexible retainers are respectively located on said first extension and said second extension (see fig. 5B) (claim 3); wherein said tablet PC has one peripheral side thereof fastened to the first flexible retainer at the base of said protective panel (see fig. 3D), and the top side of said support arm is engageable into the engagement structure of said tablet PC and to support said tablet PC on said protective panel in a tilted position (see fig. 2D) (claim 4); and wherein said tablet PC has the back side thereof attached to said protective panel (see fig. 4B) and is secured in position by said at least one first flexible retainer and said at least one second flexible retainer when said support arm received in said receiving recess (claim 6).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark et al. in view of Cipolla et al. (US 6,078,495).

Clark discloses the claimed invention except indicating the keyboard comprising two coupling grooves respectively defined in two sides of said keyboard, said protective panel comprising two sliding rails respectively located on said first extension and said second extension at two sides of said keyboard mounting opening for engaging the coupling grooves of said keyboard.

Cipolla teaches a detachable computer (fig. 1) comprising: a keyboard (12) including two coupling grooves (26 and 28) respectively defined in two sides of said keyboard, and a protective panel (20) including two sliding rails (22 and 24, fig. 2) respectively located on a first extension (64) and a second extension (68) for engaging the coupling grooves of said keyboard.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Clark with the keyboard taught by Cipolla for showing how the keyboard sliding into the keyboard mounting opening.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The best prior art of record, Clark et al. (US 6,493,220 B1), and Cipolla et al. (US 6,078,495), taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a detachable personal computer comprising an engagement structure in a back side of a tablet PC detachably coupled to a protective panel of the detachable personal computer, being a rack adapted to engage a top side of a support arm coupled to a receiving recess of the protective panel, in one of a series of positions for enabling said tablet PC to be supported on said protective panel by said support arm in any one of a series of tilted positions as set forth in claim 5.

Correspondence

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yean-Hsi Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-2038. The examiner can normally be reached on 07:30 - 16:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Art Unit phone number is (571) 272-2800, ext. 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and for After Final communications. There are RightFax numbers and provide the fax sender with an auto-reply fax verifying receipt by the USPTO: Before-Final (703-872-9318) and After-Final (703-872-9319).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-8558.

Yean-Hsi Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2835
March 14, 2005



YEAN-HSI CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER